

COMMITTEE REPORT

MR. PRESIDENT:

The Senate Committee on Education, to which was referred Senate Bill No. 235, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the Senate with the recommendation that said bill be AMENDED as follows:

- 1 Page 1, delete lines 1 through 17 and insert:
- 2 "SECTION 1. IC 20-1-20.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
- 3 AS A NEW CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 4 JULY 1, 1999]:
- 5 **Chapter 20.5. Education Roundtable**
- 6 **Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "board" has the meaning set**
- 7 **forth in IC 20-10.1-1-17.**
- 8 **Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "roundtable" refers to the**
- 9 **education roundtable established by section 3 of this chapter.**
- 10 **Sec. 3. The education roundtable is established.**
- 11 **Sec. 4. The roundtable consists of the following members:**
- 12 **(1) A number of members appointed jointly by the governor**
- 13 **and the superintendent of public instruction. These members**
- 14 **must be representatives of:**
- 15 **(A) business and community leaders;**
- 16 **(B) elementary and secondary education, including special**
- 17 **education; and**
- 18 **(C) higher education.**

The number of members appointed under clause (A) must be equal to the number of members appointed under clauses (B) and (C).

(2) Two (2) members of the senate appointed by the president pro tempore of the senate from different political parties.

(3) Two (2) members of the house of representatives appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives from different political parties.

Sec. 5. (a) A member of the roundtable is not entitled to a salary per diem.

(b) A member of the roundtable is entitled to reimbursement for traveling expenses and other expenses actually incurred in connection with the member's duties, as provided in the state travel policies and procedures established by the Indiana department of administration and approved by the budget agency.

Sec. 6. The governor and the superintendent of public instruction shall jointly serve as cochairpersons of the roundtable. The roundtable shall meet upon the call of the cochairpersons.

Sec. 7. The roundtable is a permanent body and working group.

Sec. 8. The roundtable shall provide recommendations on subjects related to education to the following:

- (1) The governor.
- (2) The superintendent of public instruction.
- (3) The general assembly.
- (4) The board.

Sec. 9. The roundtable shall make recommendations to the board for improving the academic standards under IC 20-10.1-16.

Sec. 10. The roundtable shall review and recommend to the board for the board's approval the following:

- (1) The academic standards under IC 20-10.1-16 for all grade levels from kindergarten through grade 12.
- (2) The content and format of the ISTEP program, including the following:
 - (A) The graduation examination.
 - (B) The passing scores required at the various grade levels tested under the ISTEP program.
 - (C) The addition of science and social studies standards and assessments by grade level.

1 **Sec. 11. In making recommendations under section 10 of this**
 2 **chapter, the roundtable shall consider:**

- 3 (1) **a variety of available national and international**
 4 **assessments and tests;**
- 5 (2) **the development of an assessment or test unique to**
 6 **Indiana; and**
- 7 (3) **any combination of assessments or tests described under**
 8 **subdivisions (1) and (2).**

9 **Sec. 12. In making recommendations under section 10 of this**
 10 **chapter, the roundtable shall recommend to the board only state**
 11 **tests that when appropriate:**

- 12 (1) **present the content of each test in an interdisciplinary**
 13 **manner; and**
- 14 (2) **provide each student with the opportunity to meet the**
 15 **academic standards in an applied manner.**

16 **Sec. 13. The board may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to**
 17 **implement this chapter.**

18 SECTION 2. IC 20-1-21-9 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 19 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1999]: Sec. 9. The report must
 20 include the following benchmarks:

- 21 (1) Graduation rate.
- 22 (2) Attendance rate.
- 23 (3) ~~ISTEP~~ **The following test scores, ~~or including the number~~**
 24 **and percentage of students meeting academic standards:**
 - 25 (A) ~~ISTEP test scores.~~
 - 26 (B) **Scores for assessments under IC 20-10.1-16-15, if**
 27 **appropriate.**
 - 28 (C) For a freeway school, scores on a locally adopted
 29 assessment program, if appropriate. ~~including the number and~~
 30 ~~percentage of students:~~
 - 31 (A) ~~meeting an advanced standard; or~~
 - 32 (B) ~~meeting a proficient standard.~~
- 33 (4) Actual class size.
- 34 (5) The number and percentage of students in the following
 35 groups or programs:
 - 36 (A) At risk.
 - 37 (B) Vocational education.
 - 38 (C) Special education.

- 1 (D) Gifted or talented.
- 2 (E) ~~Remediation/preventative~~ **Remediation and preventive**
- 3 remediation.
- 4 (6) Advanced placement, including the following:
 - 5 (A) For advanced placement tests, the number and percentage
 - 6 of students:
 - 7 (i) scoring three (3), four (4), and (5); or
 - 8 (ii) participating.
 - 9 (B) For the Scholastic Aptitude Test, ~~the number and~~
 - 10 ~~percentage of students~~
 - 11 (i) ~~above a designated proficient score; test scores; and~~
 - 12 (ii) ~~above a designated advanced score; or~~
 - 13 ~~(iii) the number and percentage of students~~ participating.
- 14 (7) Course completion, including the number and percentage of
- 15 students completing the following programs:
 - 16 (A) Academic honors diploma.
 - 17 (B) Core 40 curriculum.
 - 18 (C) Vocational programs.
- 19 (8) The percentage of graduates who pursue higher education.
- 20 (9) School safety, including the number and percentage of
- 21 students receiving suspension or expulsion for the possession of
- 22 alcohol, drugs, or weapons.
- 23 (10) Financial information relevant to performance.
- 24 SECTION 3. IC 20-8.1-3-18 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
- 25 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1999]: Sec. 18. (a) Service as a
- 26 page for or as an honoree of the Indiana general assembly constitutes
- 27 a lawful excuse for a pupil to be absent from school. For each day of
- 28 page service or as an honoree of the Indiana general assembly, verified
- 29 by the certificate of the secretary of the senate or the chief clerk of the
- 30 house of representatives, a student excused from school attendance
- 31 under this subsection shall not be recorded as being absent on any date
- 32 for which the excuse is operative, nor shall the student be penalized by
- 33 the school in any manner. This section applies to all pupils, whether
- 34 they attend public, private, or parochial schools.
- 35 (b) The governing body of each school corporation and the chief
- 36 administrative official of each private secondary school system shall
- 37 authorize the absence and excuse of each secondary school student who
- 38 serves on the precinct election board or as a helper to a political

1 candidate or to a political party on the date of each general, city or
 2 town, special, and primary election at which the student works. Prior
 3 to the date of the election, the student must submit a document signed
 4 by one (1) of the student's parents or guardians giving permission to
 5 participate in the election as provided in this section, and the student
 6 must verify to school authorities the performance of services by
 7 submitting a document signed by the candidate, political party
 8 chairman, campaign manager, or precinct officer. The document must
 9 describe generally the duties of the student on the date of the election.
 10 A student excused from school attendance under this subsection shall
 11 not be recorded as being absent on any date for which the excuse is
 12 operative, nor shall the student be penalized by the school in any
 13 manner.

14 (c) The governing body of each school corporation or the chief
 15 administrative officer of each private school system shall authorize the
 16 absence and excuse of a student who is issued a subpoena to appear in
 17 court as a witness in a judicial proceeding. A student excused under
 18 this subsection shall not be recorded as being absent on any date for
 19 which the excuse is operative, nor shall the student be penalized by the
 20 school in any manner. The appropriate school authority may require
 21 that the student submit the subpoena to the appropriate school authority
 22 for verification.

23 (d) The governing body of each school corporation or the chief
 24 administrative officer of each private school system shall authorize the
 25 absence and excuse of each secondary school student who is ordered
 26 to active duty with the Indiana National Guard for not more than ten
 27 (10) days in a school year. For verification, the student must submit to
 28 school authorities a copy of the orders to active duty and a copy of the
 29 orders releasing the student from active duty. A student excused from
 30 school attendance under this subsection shall not be recorded as being
 31 absent on any date for which the excuse is operative, nor shall the
 32 student be penalized by the school in any manner.

33 ~~(e) The governing body of a school corporation or the chief~~
 34 ~~administrative officer of a private school system shall authorize the~~
 35 ~~absence and excuse of a secondary school student who is appointed~~
 36 ~~jointly by the governor and the superintendent of public instruction to~~
 37 ~~serve as a member of the state standards task force under~~
 38 ~~IC 20-10.1-4.1-2 when attendance at a state standards task force~~

meeting conflicts in whole or in part with a student instructional day.

An excused absence under this subsection is only valid for the time:

(1) of the actual state standards task force meeting; and

(2) the student is in transit to and from the meeting.

For verification, the student must submit to school authorities a document signed by the chairman of the state standards task force verifying the attendance by the student at the state standards task force meeting. The document must indicate the times at which the student was required to be in attendance at the state standards task force meeting. A student excused from school attendance under this subsection shall not be recorded as being absent on any date covered by the excuse and the student shall not be penalized by the school in any manner.

SECTION 4. IC 20-10.1-4.4-1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1999]: Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "requisite proficiency" refers to the satisfaction by a student of the following:

(1) The standards approved by the:

(A) (1) state board under section 4(3) of this chapter to receive a secondary level certificate of achievement in an academic field; or

(B) (2) workforce proficiency panel within the department of workforce development under section 4(3) of this chapter to receive a secondary level certificate of achievement in a technical field.

(2) Any additional standards adopted by the school corporation under IC 20-10.1-4.1-7(b)(1).

SECTION 5. IC 20-10.1-16-1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1999]: Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "~~educational proficiency statements~~" "**academic standards**" refers to the ~~statements statewide academic standards~~ developed by the department under section 6 of this chapter and under **IC 20-10.1-17** indicating the skills and knowledge base expected of a student at a particular grade level for a particular subject area.

SECTION 6. IC 20-10.1-16-4 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1999]: Sec. 4. (a) The board shall:

(1) authorize the development and implementation of the Indiana

1 statewide testing for educational progress program; and

2 (2) determine the date on which the statewide testing is
3 administered in each school corporation.

4 (b) The state superintendent is responsible for the overall
5 development, implementation, and monitoring of the ISTEP program.

6 (c) The department shall prepare detailed design specifications for
7 the ISTEP program that must do the following:

8 (1) Take into account the ~~state educational proficiency statements.~~
9 **academic standards.**

10 (2) Include testing of students' higher level cognitive thinking in
11 each subject area tested.

12 SECTION 7. IC 20-10.1-16-5 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
13 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1999]: Sec. 5. (a) The purposes of
14 the ISTEP program developed under this chapter are as follows:

15 (1) To assess the strengths and weaknesses of school
16 performance.

17 (2) To assess the effects of state and local educational programs.

18 (3) To compare achievement of students in Indiana to
19 achievement of students on a national basis.

20 (4) To provide a source of information for state and local decision
21 makers with regard to educational matters, including the
22 following:

23 (A) The overall academic progress of students.

24 (B) The need for new or revised educational programs.

25 (C) The need to terminate existing educational programs.

26 (D) Student readiness for postsecondary school experiences.

27 (E) Overall curriculum development and revision activities.

28 (F) Identifying students who may need remediation under
29 IC 20-10.1-17.

30 (G) Diagnosing individual student needs.

31 (H) Teacher training and staff development activities.

32 (b) To carry out the purposes described in subsection (a), each
33 **English/language arts and mathematics** test developed for use under
34 ISTEP must include the following:

35 (1) A method of testing basic skills appropriate for the designated
36 grade level, including multiple choice questions.

37 (2) A method of testing applied skills appropriate for the
38 designated grade level, including short answer or essay questions

- 1 and the solving of arithmetic or mathematical problems.
- 2 (3) A method of testing and grading that will allow comparison
- 3 with ~~nationally norm-referenced tests~~; **national and**
- 4 **international academic standards**".
- 5 Delete pages 2 through 4.
- 6 Page 5, delete lines 1 through 30.
- 7 Page 5, line 32, reset in roman "department".
- 8 Page 5, delete line 33.
- 9 Page 5, line 34, delete "IC 20-15-2-1".
- 10 Page 5, line 34, strike "educational".
- 11 Page 5, line 35, delete ":" and insert **"for each grade level from**
- 12 **kindergarten through grade 12:"**.
- 13 Page 5, line 38, reset in roman "Social studies".
- 14 Page 5, line 38, delete "History".
- 15 Page 5, line 40, reset in roman "Other subject areas as determined
- 16 by the department".
- 17 Page 5, delete line 41.
- 18 Page 5, line 42, reset in roman "revise and update".
- 19 Page 6, line 1, after "statements" insert **"academic standards for**
- 20 **each grade level from kindergarten through grade 12 and"**.
- 21 Page 6, line 1, reset in roman "in each subject area listed in
- 22 subsection (a) at".
- 23 Page 6, reset in roman lines 2 through 3.
- 24 Page 6, line 4, reset in roman "IC 20-10.1-9-4".
- 25 Page 6, line 4, delete "recommend to school corporations curricula
- 26 that".
- 27 Page 6, delete line 5.
- 28 Page 6, line 6, reset in roman "(c) The state superintendent".
- 29 Page 6, line 6, after "shall" insert **"may"**.
- 30 Page 6, line 6, reset in roman "appoint".
- 31 Page 6, line 7, after "overview" insert **"an academic standards"**.
- 32 Page 6, line 7, reset in roman "committee".
- 33 Page 6, line 7, after "a" insert **"that is composed of"**.
- 34 Page 6, line 7, reset in roman "subject area".
- 35 Page 6, line 7, after "area" insert **"teachers"**.
- 36 Page 6, line 7, reset in roman "during the period when".
- 37 Page 6, line 7, after "when the" insert **"a"**.

- 1 Page 6, line 8, reset in roman "subject area is undergoing revision."
- 2 Page 6, line 19, reset in roman "(d)".
- 3 Page 6, line 19, after "overview" insert **"If established, an**
- 4 **academic standards"**.
- 5 Page 6, line 19, reset in roman "committee shall".
- 6 Page 6, line 26, delete "~~Submit~~" and insert "submit".
- 7 Page 6, line 26, reset in roman "recommendations".
- 8 Page 6, line 26, after "recommendations" insert **"on academic**
- 9 **standards for a subject area"**.
- 10 Page 6, line 26, reset in roman "to the".
- 11 Page 6, line 26, after "force" insert **"education roundtable**
- 12 **(IC 20-1-20.5)"**.
- 13 Page 6, line 26, reset in roman "for".
- 14 Page 6, line 27, delete "~~review:~~" and insert "review **by the**
- 15 **educational roundtable."**.
- 16 Page 6, line 37, after "(g)" insert "(e)".
- 17 Page 6, line 37, reset in roman "The curriculum program of".
- 18 Page 6, line 37, after "of" insert **"each grade level from**
- 19 **kindergarten through grade 12"**.
- 20 Page 6, line 37, reset in roman "of a school in a school corporation
- 21 must".
- 22 Page 6, reset in roman line 38.
- 23 Page 6, line 38, delete ":" and insert **"standards:"**.
- 24 Page 6, line 39, reset in roman "(1) The".
- 25 Page 6, line 39, after "statements." insert **"academic standards**
- 26 **developed under this section."**.
- 27 Page 6, reset in roman lines 40 through 41.
- 28 Page 6, delete line 42, begin a new paragraph and insert:
- 29 "SECTION 9. IC 20-10.1-16-7 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
- 30 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1999]: Sec. 7. (a) The scoring of
- 31 student responses under an ISTEP test:
- 32 (1) must measure student achievement relative to the ~~educational~~
- 33 ~~proficiency~~ **academic** standards established by the Indiana state
- 34 board of education;
- 35 (2) must adhere to scoring rubrics and anchor papers; and
- 36 (3) may not reflect the scorer's judgment of the values expressed
- 37 by a student in the student's responses.

(b) This subsection applies to reports of scores in mathematics and English language arts. Reports must:

(1) provide scores indicating student performance relative to each of the ~~educational proficiency~~ **academic** standards:

(A) established by the Indiana state board of education; and

(B) assessed by the test;

(2) be related to passing scores established by the board; and

(3) contain the information listed in subdivisions (1) and (2) for the following levels:

(A) Individual student.

(B) Classroom.

(C) School.

(D) School corporation.

(E) The state of Indiana.

(c) Reports of student scores must be:

(1) returned to the school corporation that administered the test; and

(2) accompanied by a guide for interpreting scores.

(d) After reports of student scores are returned to a school corporation, the school corporation shall promptly do the following:

(1) Give each student and the student's parent or guardian the student's ISTEP scores.

(2) Make available for inspection to each student and the student's parent or guardian the following:

(A) A copy of the essay questions and prompts used in assessing the student.

(B) A copy of the student's scored essays.

(C) A copy of the anchor papers and scoring rubrics used to score the student's essays.

A student's parent or guardian may request a rescoring of a student's responses to a test, including a student's essay. No individual's ISTEP scores may be disclosed to the public.

(e) After a school receives score reports, the school shall schedule a parent/teacher conference with the following:

(1) A parent who requests a parent/teacher conference on the scores of the parent's child.

(2) The parent of each student who does not receive a passing score on the test. The conference must include a discussion of:

1 (A) the student's test scores, including subscores on
 2 ~~educational proficiencies~~; **academic standards**; and

3 (B) the proposed remediation plan for the student.

4 (f) The aggregate results of the ISTEP tests shall be compiled by
 5 each school corporation in a manner that will permit evaluation of
 6 learning progress within the school corporation. The school corporation
 7 shall make the compilation of test results available for public
 8 inspection and shall provide that compilation to the parent or guardian
 9 of each student tested under the ISTEP program.

10 (g) The department shall develop a format for the publication by
 11 school corporations in an annual performance report required by statute
 12 of appropriate academic information required by the department,
 13 including ISTEP scores, in a manner that a reasonable person can
 14 easily read and understand.

15 (h) The school corporation shall provide the ISTEP program test
 16 results on a school by school basis to the department upon request.

17 (i) Upon request by the commission for higher education, the
 18 department shall provide ISTEP program test results to the commission
 19 for those students for whom the commission under 20 U.S.C. 1232(g)
 20 has obtained consent.

21 SECTION 10. IC 20-10.1-16-9.1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 22 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1999]: Sec. 9.1. (a) The department
 23 shall establish a pilot program to examine innovative testing methods.

24 (b) The department shall select a representative sample of school
 25 corporations determined through an application procedure to
 26 participate in the pilot program under this section.

27 (c) The types of methods authorized under this program include the
 28 following:

29 (1) Recently developed techniques for measuring higher order
 30 thinking skills.

31 (2) Performance testing of ~~state proficiencies~~ **academic**
 32 **standards** that are difficult to measure by a written test format.

33 (3) Expanded subject area assessment using student writing
 34 samples.

35 (d) The funds necessary to implement a pilot program under this
 36 section shall be expended from the research and development program
 37 under IC 20-10.1-22.

38 SECTION 11. IC 20-10.1-16-13 IS AMENDED TO READ AS

FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1999]: Sec. 13. (a) Beginning with the class of students who expect to graduate during the 1999-2000 school year, each student is required to meet:

- (1) the ~~educational proficiency standard~~ **academic standards** tested in the graduation examination; and
- (2) any additional requirements established by the governing body;

to be eligible to graduate.

(b) A student who does not meet the ~~educational proficiency standard~~ **academic standards** tested in the graduation examination shall be given the opportunity to be tested during each semester of each grade following the grade in which the student is initially tested until the student achieves a passing score.

(c) The board shall develop and adopt a procedure to enable students who:

- (1) undergo the graduation examination; and
- (2) do not receive a passing score on the graduation examination;

to appeal their particular results. The rules adopted by the board must provide for the specific eligible bases for which an appeal may be made and must include as one (1) basis for which an appeal may be made the submission by the appellant student of written evidence indicating that the student's teacher in areas tested by the graduation examination and principal, in their professional judgment, believe that the student's graduation examination results do not accurately reflect the student's attainment of the ~~educational proficiency standard~~. **academic standards tested in the graduation examination.**

(d) A student who does not meet the ~~educational proficiency standard~~ **academic standards** tested in the graduation examination may:

- (1) have the ~~educational proficiency standard~~ requirement of **meeting academic standards** waived; and
- (2) be eligible to graduate;

if the principal of the school the student attends certifies that the student will within one (1) month of the student's scheduled graduation date successfully complete all components of the Core 40 curriculum as established by the board under IC 20-10.1-5.7-1.

(e) The state board of education shall determine the appropriate

grade during which a student may initially undergo the graduation examination. The grade established under this subsection must be higher than grade 9.

SECTION 12. IC 20-10.1-16-15 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1999]: **Sec. 15. (a) The board may require schools to participate in national or international assessments.**

(b) The board may establish an assessment to be administered at the conclusion of each Core 40 course in English/language arts, mathematics, social studies, and science. However, participation in a Core 40 assessment established under this subsection must be voluntary on the part of a school corporation.

(c) The board may establish a diagnostic reading assessment for use in grade 1 and grade 2 for the purpose of promoting grade level reading competency by grade 3. However, participation in a reading assessment established under this subsection must be voluntary on the part of a school corporation.

SECTION 13. IC 20-10.1-17-0.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1999]: **Sec. 0.5. As used in this chapter, "academic standards" has the meaning set forth in IC 20-10.1-16-1.**

SECTION 14. IC 20-10.1-17-3 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1999]: **Sec. 3. (a) The board shall adopt clear, concise, and jargon free state achievement academic standards for mathematics and English/language arts for the grade levels tested under the ISTEP program: that are comparable to national and international academic standards. These academic standards must be adopted for each grade level from kindergarten through grade 12 for the following subjects:**

- (1) English/language arts.**
- (2) Mathematics.**
- (3) Social studies.**
- (4) Science.**

For grade levels tested under the ISTEP program, the academic standards must be based in part upon the results of the ISTEP program.

(b) The department shall do the following:

(1) Distribute the academic standards established under this section to each school corporation for distribution by the school corporation to the parent of each student in the school corporation.

(2) Survey parents of students, members of the business community, representatives of higher education, and educators on the importance and applicability of academic standards.

(c) ISTEP program testing shall be administered in the following subject areas **in grade levels determined by the board:**

(1) English/language arts.

(2) Mathematics.

(3) Beginning in school year 2002-2003, science.

(4) Beginning in school year 2003-2004, social studies.

(b) ISTEP program testing may be administered in the following subject areas:

(1) Social studies.

(2) Science.

(c) The state achievement standards described in subsection (a) must be based in part upon the results of the ISTEP program and the educational proficiency statements developed under IC 20-10.1-16.

SECTION 15. IC 20-10.1-17-4.5 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1999]: Sec. 4.5. (a) The remediation grant program is established to provide grants to school corporations for the following:

(1) Remediation of students who score below ~~state proficiency~~ **academic** standards.

(2) Preventive remediation for students who are at risk of falling below ~~state achievement~~ **academic** standards.

(3) For students in a freeway school or freeway school corporation who are assessed under a locally adopted assessment program under IC 20-5-62-6(7):

(A) remediation of students who score below ~~proficiency~~ **academic** standards under the locally adopted assessment program; and

(B) preventive remediation for students who are at risk of falling below ~~achievement~~ **academic** standards under the locally adopted assessment program.

(b) The department shall do the following:

(1) Subject to section 5.5 of this chapter, develop a formula to be approved by the state board of education, reviewed by the state budget committee, and approved by the budget agency for the distribution of grants to school corporations.

(2) Distribute grant funds according to the formula.

(3) Determine standards for remediation programs to be funded under the program.

(4) Administer the program.

SECTION 16. IC 20-10.1-17-7.5 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1999]: Sec. 7.5. (a) The governing body of a school corporation may establish a remediation program or a preventive remediation program under this chapter for all students who fall below the ~~educational proficiency~~ **academic** standards described in IC 20-10.1-16. The governing body shall spend money under this chapter for direct remediation or direct preventative remediation services for students.

(b) If the governing body decides to establish a remediation program or a preventive remediation program under this chapter, the governing body must:

(1) subject to subsection (c), determine the type of program that best fits the needs of the students of the school corporation; and

(2) adopt guidelines for:

(A) procedures for determining student eligibility for a program; and

(B) implementation of the program.

(c) If the governing body decides to offer a preventive remediation program, the program shall give consideration to including a reading recovery program.

SECTION 17. IC 20-10.1-4.1 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1999].

SECTION 18. [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1999] **(a) Before June 30, 2000, the Indiana state board of education (as defined in IC 20-10.1-1-17) shall obtain a comprehensive and independent evaluation of Indiana's academic standards and assessments, including national and international comparisons.**

(b) A credible, nationally respected organization approved by the budget agency after review by the budget committee shall

- 1 **conduct the evaluation.**
- 2 **(c) The evaluation must do the following:**
- 3 **(1) Focus on analyzing:**
- 4 **(A) whether Indiana's academic standards and assessments**
- 5 **are aligned with the state's educational goals; and**
- 6 **(B) whether and to what degree Indiana's academic**
- 7 **standards and assessments produce the intended results.**
- 8 **(2) Include recommendations on how Indiana's academic**
- 9 **standards and assessments may be improved or restructured.**
- 10 **(d) This SECTION expires December 31, 2000."**
- 11 Delete pages 7 through 13.
- 12 Renumber all SECTIONS consecutively.
- (Reference is to SB 235 as printed February 3, 1999.)

and when so amended that said bill do pass.

Committee Vote: Yeas 10, Nays 0.

Senator Weatherwax, Chairperson